REMARKS

Claims 1 through 10 are pending in this application. Claim 11 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of its subject matter and claims 1 through 10 have been amended by this Preliminary Amendment. Thus, claims 1 through 10 are pending in the application.

In view of the foregoing Preliminary Amendment, this Application is believed to be in condition for examination. Should questions arise during the examination, the Examiner is requested to contact applicant's attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Bushnell,
Attorney for the Applicant
Registration No. 27,774

1522 "K" Street, N.W., Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 408-9040

Folio: P56559
Date: 10/29/01
I.D.: REB/kf

MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 11 without prejudice or disclaimer of its subject matter, and amend claims 1 through 10, as follows:

1. (Amended) Closed injection moulded closure [(20)] having a first closure part [(21, 62)], a second closure part, which closure parts [(22,63) and a hinge connection actively connecting them, characterized in that the closure parts (21, 22, 62, 63)] have no main hinge connection between them, and [that the closure parts (21, 22, 62, 63) are connected to one another by at least] two connecting elements [(23.1, 23.2) via] which are connected to the first closure part and the second closure part by means of two hinge connections [(24.1, 24.2, 25.1, 25.2)] each [bordering said connecting elements on nonadjacent sides, two] which border non-adjacent sides of said elements, make an angle (ϕ) with one another and in pairs define planes which make an angle (ω) with one another, characterized in that, in the closed position of the closure, the planes defined by the hinge connections [(24.1, 25.1, 24.2, 25.2) each bordering a connecting element (23.1, 23.2) making an angle (ϕ) with one another and planes (31, 32), defined by two hinge connections (24.1, 25.1, 24.2, 25.2) each bordering a connecting element (23.1, 23.2), making an angle (ω) with one another] are inclined relative to the closure axis in such a way that the connecting elements and the hinge connections are accessible in the mould from the inside of the closure and from the outside of the closure and can be removed from the mould.

2. (Amended) Closed injection moulded [plastics] closure [(20)] according to Patent Claim 1, characterized in that [the movable closure part (22) has at least two stable positions relative to the fixed closure (21)] in the closed position of the closure, the closure parts are functionally separated from one another by at least one gap.

3. (Amended) Closed injection moulded [plastics] closure [(20)] according to Patent [Claim 2] Claim 1, characterized in that in the closed position of the closure, the closure parts [(21, 22, 23.1, 23.2, 62, 63) in the open state have no geometric deformation relative to the injection moulded state] are connected by at least one element which is destroyed or removed when the closure is opened for the first time.

4. (Amended) Closed injection moulded [plastics] closure [(20)] according to [any of] Patent [Claims 1 to] Claim 3, characterized in that [the closure parts (21, 22, 23.1, 23.2, 62, 63) are functionally separated from one another by gaps (33 to 38)] the at least one element is a web or a tear-off lip.

5. (Amended) Closed injection moulded [plastics] closure [(20)] according to [Patent Claim 4] Claim 1, characterized in that the second closure part has at least [one of the gaps (33 to 38, 68) has elements (39) which connect the closure parts (21, 22, 23.1, 23.2, 62, 63) to one another and which are destroyed when the closure (20) is opened for the first time] two stable positions relative to the first closure part.

6. (Amended) Closed injection moulded [plastics] closure [(20)] according to [any of] Patent [Claims 1 to 5] Claim 1, characterized in that [the closure parts (21, 22, 23.1, 23.2, 62, 63) are connected to one another by a tear-off lip which is removed before opening for the first time] the first closure part and the second closure part and the connecting elements in the opened position have no geometric deformations relative to the injection moulded state.

7. (Amended) Closed injection moulded [plastics] closure [(20)] according to [any of] Patent [Claims 1 to 6] Claim 1, characterized in that [the first closure part (22, 62) has an active element (57) which, in the closed position of the closure (20), has an active connection to a counter-element (58) and prevents unintentional opening of the closure (1, 20)] the opening angle (α) between the first closure part and the second closure part in the open position of the closure is 150° to 180°.

8. (Amended) Closed injection moulded [plastics] closure [(20)] according to Patent Claim [7] 1, characterized in that [the closure (20) is opened by lateral pressure on the first closure part (22, 62)] two hinge connections each bordering a connecting element make a first angle (ω) and the two planes make a second angle (ϕ) and that the relationship between the opening angle (α) of the closure and the first angle (ω) and the second angle (ϕ) is given by the following formula:

$$\phi = 2 \cdot \arctan\left[\frac{\sin(\alpha/2)}{1-\cos(\alpha/2)} \cdot \sin(\omega/2)\right].$$

9. (Amended) Closed injection moulded [plastics] closure [(20)] according to [any of the preceding Patent Claims] Claim 1, characterized in that the connecting elements are integrated in a concave or in a convex region of the closure. [relationship between an opening angle (α) of the closure (20) and the angles (ω) and (ϕ) is given by the following formula:

$$\phi = 2 \cdot \arctan\left[\frac{\sin(\alpha/2)}{1-\cos(\alpha/2)} \cdot \sin(\omega/2)\right]. \ ]$$

10. (Amended) Closed injection moulded [plastics] closure according to [any of the preceding Claims] Claim 1, characterized in that the first closure part [(62)] is adjacent to the second closure part [(63)] and both closure parts [(62, 63)] are actively connected to a container [(12)], at least one closure part [(63)] being detachably and actively connected to the latter.